MANITOBA

FIREARM INCIDENTS

REPORT

Hunting and Non-Hunting
2004

Manitoba
Conservation
and
Manitoba
Wildlife Federation

ACKNOWLEGEMENTS

Manitoba Conservation acknowledges the assistance provided by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police who provided information for this Firearm Incidents Report. It is through this organization that detailed information on each firearm incident was obtained. This report does not necessarily include all firearm incidents in the province as we can only report on those incidents we receive information for.

NOTE: This report does not cover firearm incidents within the cities of Brandon or Winnipeg.

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Royal Canadian Mounted Police and other police forces requiring additional incident report forms please write to Manitoba Conservation, 200 Saulteaux Crescent, Winnipeg Manitoba R3J 3W3 or phone 945-8671. Questions regarding the administration and delivery of the Manitoba Hunter and Firearm Safety Program should be directed to:

The Manitoba Wildlife Federation
70 Stevenson Road
Winnipeg MB R3H 0W7
633- Hunt (4868) or
1-877-633-Hunt

SUMMARY

During 2004, there were six reported firearm-related incidents. In 2002, there were two and in 2003, there were four. Two of the incidents in 2004 were self-inflicted, resulting in one fatality. Two of the 2004 incidents involved a shooter under 18 years of age, (the age of two shooters is unknown) compared to none in 2003 and 2002.

Three of the reported incidents were related to hunting. (The activity for two of the incidents is unknown) None of the reported incidents occurred during a licenced hunting season. (In one incident a licenced deer season was open but it is unknown if the shooter was hunting)

Of the six reported incidents, two occurred at a distance of less than ten yards, one occurred at a distance of 10-50 yards, one occurred at a distance of 50-100 yards, and two occurred at an unknown distance. One of the six reported incidents (non-fatal) involved a graduate of a Hunter Safety Program. (It is unknown if two of the shooters had graduated from a Hunter Safety Program)

There were 2,336 students that completed the Manitoba Hunter and Firearm Safety course in 2004, while 2,059 completed the course in 2003. 142,647 students have now graduated from the program since it began in 1964. Of the total, 165 have later become involved in a firearm incident, which represents 0.12%. In 2004, 24 new instructors were certified, bringing the total number of volunteers to approximately 254 active instructors.

In 1998 Manitoba Conservation entered into an agreement with the Manitoba Wildlife Federation (MWF). The agreement transfered the administration and delivery of the Manitoba Hunter and Firearm Safety Training Program to the MWF.

CAUSE OF INCIDENTS

	2003	2004
Victim out of sight of shooter	2	1
Victim moved into line of fire	0	0
Victim covered by shooter swinging on game	0	0
Victim mistaken for game	0	0
Shooter stumbled and fell	0	2*
Using firearm as a club	0	0
Trigger caught on bush or other object	0	0
Loaded firearm in vehicle	1*	0
Firearm fell from insecure rest	0	0
Horseplay" and/or "didn't know it was loaded"	0	0
Crossing fence or other obstacle with loaded firearm	0	0
Loading	0	0
Unloading	0	0
Defective firearm	0	0
Cleaning firearm	0	0
Loaded firearm in the home	0	0
Accidental discharge	1	1
Ricochet	0	1
Unknown	0	1
* Indicates fatal incident		
Total	**4**	**6**

Average firearm incidents per year in 5-year increments since Hunter Safety Program commenced.

1964-1968	44.2
1969-1973	56.0
1974-1978	53.6
1979-1983	42.8
1984-1988	26.4
1989-1993	20.4
1994-1998	9.0
1999-2003	6.0
2004	6.0

SYNOPSIS OF 2003 AND 2004 FIREARM INCIDENTS

		2003	2004
A.	**Total Number of Incidents**	**4**	**6**
	Fatal	1	1
	Non-fatal	3	5
B.	**1) Hunting Legally During Regular Season**	**3**	**0**
	Fatal	1	0
	Non-fatal	2	0
	2) Treaty Indian Hunting	**0**	**2**
	Fatal	0	1
	Non- fatal	0	1
	3) Hunting Small Animals, Birds, or Illegal Hunting	**0**	**1**
	Fatal	0	0
	Non-fatal	0	1
	4) Non-hunting Incidents	**0**	**1**
	Fatal in the home	0	0
	Fatal in a vehicle	0	0
	Fatal outside home	0	0
	Non-fatal in the home	0	0
	Non-fatal in a vehicle	0	0
	Non-fatal outside the home	0	1
C.	**Shooter Unknown**	**1**	**2**
	Fatal	0	0
	Non-fatal	1	2
D.	**Incidents Involving Shooter under 18 years of age**	**0**	**2**
	All Types of Hunting	0	0
	Fatal	0	0
	Non-fatal	0	1
	Non-hunting	0	0
	Fatal	0	0
	Non-fatal	0	1

TYPE OF FIREARM INVOLVED

		2003	2004
A.	**.22 caliber Rim Fire Rifle**	**0**	**2**
	Fatal	0	0
	Non-fatal	0	2
B.	**Center Fire Hi Power Rifle**	**1**	**0**
	Fatal	0	0
	Non-fatal	1	0
C.	**Shotgun**	**3**	**3**
	Fatal	1	1
	Non-fatal	2	2
D.	**Hand Gun**	**0**	**0**
	Fatal	0	0
	Non-fatal	0	0
E.	**Pellet Gun**	**0**	**0**
	Fatal	0	0
	Non-fatal	0	0
F.	**Other Muzzle Loader**	**0**	**0**
	Fatal	0	0
	Non-fatal	0	0
G.	**Unknown/**	**0**	**1**
	Fatal	0	0
	Non-fatal	0	1
Total		**4**	**6**

DISTANCE OF VICTIM FROM SHOOTER

	2003	2004
0 to 10 yards	2	2
10 to 50 yards	0	1
50 to 100 yards	1	1
over 100 yards	1	0
Distance Unknown	0	2

OCCURRENCES

Time of Day	2003	2004
Midnight – 3:00 a.m.	0	0
3:00 a.m. – 6:00 a.m.	0	0
6:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	0	0
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon	1*	0
12:00 noon – 3:00 p.m.	0	2
3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	2	2
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	1	2*
9:00 p.m. – 12:00 midnight	0	0
Unknown	0	0
By Day		
Sunday	1	0
Monday	0	1
Tuesday	1	2
Wednesday	0	1
Thursday	0	1*
Friday	1*	1
Saturday	1	0
By Month		
January	0	0
February	0	0
March	0	0
April	0	1*
May	0	0
June	0	1
July	0	0
August	0	1
September	1*	1
October	3	1
November	0	1
December	0	0

* Indicates fatality

COMPARISON OF NUMBER OF HUNTING LICENCES SOLD

	GAME BIRD	BIG GAME	TOTAL
1970	45,822	47,156	92,978
1975	48,687	11,606*	60,293
1980	58,091	60,505	118,596
1985	35,342	52,541	87,883
1990	34,571	60,006	94,577
1995	24,511	67,883	92,394
2000	19,584	61,318	80,902
2001	18,266	64,098	82,364
2002	17,841	63,703	81,544
2003	18,734	64,220	82,954
2004	16,990	66,134	83,124

* Indicates closed deer season

COMPARISON OF TOTAL FIREARM INCIDENTS
LICENSED HUNTING INCIDENTS WITH TOTAL HUNTING LICENCES ISSUED

YEAR	TOTAL LICENSES ISSUED	TOTAL FIREARM INCIDENTS	LICENCED HUNTING INCIDENTS
1985	87,883	26	7
1990	94,577	22	6
1995	92,394	15	1
2000	80,902	3	1
2001	82,364	6	1
2002	81,544	2	1
2003	82,954	4	3
2004	83,124	6	0

SUMMARY OF 2004 INCIDENTS

DATE AND TIME	AGE OF SHOOTER AGE OF VICTIM	FATAL	TYPE OF FIREARM	MUZZLE DISTANCE	GAME HUNTED	SHOOTER WAS A GRADUATE OF HUNTER SAFETY	CIRCUMSTANCES
April 22 Approx 8pm	S - 32 Self-Inflicted	Yes	Shotgun (shot)	0 – 10 yards.	Beaver	No	Unknown what shooter was doing at time of discharge. Suspected shooter stumbled on uneven ground and shot himself.
June 16 17:00	S - 15 V - 12	No	.22 rifle	50-100 yards	None	Yes	Shooter shot two times from a 2nd story window. A tree was blocking the shooter's view of the victim.
August 2 13:30	S - 37 Self-inflicted	No	.22 rifle	0 – 10 yards	Gopher	No	Victim stepped into a hole made by a mole, jolt caused trigger to go off.
September 21 12:08	S - unknown V - 41	No	Shotgun (shot)	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Victim was hit by a ricochet pellet.
October 8 18:00	S – 9 V – 20	No	Shotgun (shot)	10 – 50 yards	Ducks	No	Shooter dropped shotgun and while picking it up accidentally discharged.

S - Shooter V - Victim

SUMMARY OF 2004 INCIDENTS Continued

DATE AND TIME	AGE OF SHOOTER AGE OF VICTIM	FATAL	TYPE OF FIREARM	MUZZLE DISTANCE	GAME HUNTED	SHOOTER WAS A GRADUATE OF HUNTER SAFETY	CIRCUMSTANCES
November 16 17:00	S - unknown V - 23	No	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Motorist was travelling on the highway south of Brandon when a bullet passed through his driver side window and out the passenger side. Minor injuries were sustained.